

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PINT, SHUM, IR

SUBJ: JOINT MAJLIS SENATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION FORMED

1. IRANIAN PARLIAMENT HAS FORMED JOINT MAJLIS-SENATE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ELECTED SENATOR EMAD TORBATI AS ITS CHAIRMAN WITH MAJLIS DEPUTY MEHDI SHEIKHOLESLAMI AS VICE-CHAIRMAN.

2. THE 14 MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ALSO INCLUDE: SENATORS EMADEDDIN MIR-MOTAHERI, EZZATOLLAH YAZDANPANAH, FAZEL SARJUI, JALALI NAINI, AND MAJLIS REPRESENTATIVES HABIB DADFAR, JAFAR MANSURIAN, MANUCHEHR PEZESHKY, MOHSEN PEZESHKPUR, ALI AHMAD KHORSHID AND FATHOLLAH SAVADKUHI.

3. AFTER ANNOUNCING FORMATION OF THE COMMISSION, SENATOR TORBATI DESCRIBED IT TO MEDIA AS NATURAL OUTCOME OF THE SHAH-PEOPLE REVOLUTION. TORBATI POINTED OUT IRAN HAS CHAMPIONED HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS BACK TO TIME OF CYRUS THE GREAT.

4. IN AN INTERESTING ASIDE, TORBATI HAD THE FOLLOWING TO SAY ABOUT COMMISSION'S GOALS: "UNFORTUNATELY, SOME PEOPLE HAVE GIVEN THEMSELVES THE RIGHT TO EXPRESS OPINIONS ABOUT MATTERS WHICH CONCERN US AND ABOUT WHICH THEY KNOW NOTHING.

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SO WE HAVE FORMED THIS COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE CONDITIONS OF HUMAN BEINGS ALL OVER THE WORLD AND TO ACQUAINT THE WORLD WITH FAILURES AND DEFICIENCIES IN THIS FIELD."

5. TAKING SAME LINE AS OTHER GOI LEADERS IN PAST (INCLUDING SHAH), TORBATI DESCRIBED QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN BORADEST TERMS INCLUDING EXPLOITATION OF MANY BY MAN IN ECONOMIC AREAS

AND PRESSURES ON WEAK COUNTRIES TO ACCEPT POLICIES OF STRONGER.
"WE WILL EXAMINE ALL THESE DIFFERENT WAYS IN WHICH HUMAN
RIGHTS ARE TRESPASSED AND MAKE THEM KNOWN TO THE WORLD."

6. COMMENT: INITIAL SOUNDINGS SUGGEST PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION FORMED IN RESPONSE TO ATTACKS AGAINST IRAN FROM ABROAD BUT WILL NOT BE CONTENT WITH MERELY REPORTING ITS COUNTRY'S ASSERTIONS. SELECTION OF OUTSPOKEN MAJLIS-DEPUTY MEHDI SHEIKHOLESAMI AS VICE-CHAIRMAN SUGGESTS GROUP PLANS ITS OWN PUBLICITY OUTPUT. ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE FORMER JUDGES AND LAWYERS, SOME OF WHOM HAVE HAD SUBSTANTIAL COURT OR BENCH EXPERIENCE. MISSION PLANS TO MAKE INTRODUCTORY CONTACT WITH GROUP AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY.

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Message Attributes

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